

## REMARKS

### Drawings

Figures 1-3 and 6 have now been labeled in the same manner as described in the specification, identifying "nodes" and routing tables".

### Claim Objections

In Claim 11 the word "cells" has been corrected to "calls" as requested. This claim has also been amended to form a single sentence.

### Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Examiner rejects claims 1, 3, 6, 9 and 12-15 under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Lorenzen et al.* It is respectfully submitted that these claims are patentably distinguished over *Lorenzen* in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 recites a method of routing calls which can avoid problems of 'looping'. Claim 1 teaches how looping can be avoided by providing, as part of a call set-up request, an indication of at least one node through which the set-up request has passed. The node can then use the information about previous nodes, along with stored routing information, to route the call in a manner which will avoid looping.

*Lorenzen* does not teach the step of "receiving a call set-up request comprising an indication of at least one node through which the set-up request has passed." The Examiner has noted passages in *Lorenzen* which are considered to provide basis for this rejection, but Applicant cannot find any such basis in these passages. In *Lorenzen*, switches within a network update their routing tables according to acquired congestion information in an attempt to route calls in a manner which will avoid congested parts of the network. In *Lorenzen* there is no teaching, nor suggestion, that a call set-up request should contain information about nodes

through which the call set-up request has previously passed. Thus, claims 1, 3, 6 and 9 are not anticipated by *Lorenzen*.

In Claims 12, 14 and 15 the term 'trail log' is used to refer to the list of nodes through which the set-up request has passed. Examiner has indicated, at the base of page 3 of the Action, that *Lorenzen* teaches the claimed "trail log" feature at col.8 lines 50-58. The passage at col.8 lines 50-58 simply describes a message – called an NPINIT message – which is sent between a network processor and a switch to initialize the switch. This passage does not describe anything that can possibly be equated to a "trail log". The NPINIT message is not a call set-up request, it does not originate from another call routing node and it does not comprise a list of previously visited nodes. Thus, claims 12, 14 and 15 are not anticipated by *Lorenzen*.

Rejected dependent claims 3, 6, 9 and 13 are also considered allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on one of claims 1 and 12.

#### **Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103**

Examiner rejects claims 2, 4-5, 7-8, 10 and 16 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lorenzen et al.* in view of *Funk*.

*Lorenzen* is deficient for the reasons explained above. *Funk* does not provide any teaching of a call set-up request which indicates nodes through which the request has passed, or of a trail log for use in routing the call-request. Therefore, even a combination of *Lorenzen* and *Funk* does not disclose the features of claims 1 and 15 from which the rejected claims depend.

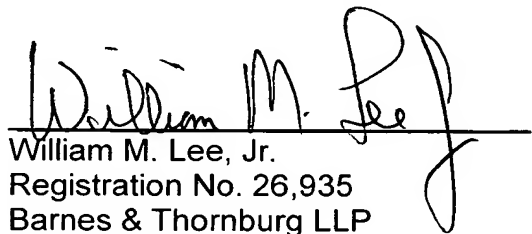
Examiner has indicated that the features of claims 7 and 8 would have been obvious in view of *Lorenzen* alone. The deficiencies of *Lorenzen* have been described above. The Handicap One and Two scenarios described at col.5 lines 22-32 of

*Lorenzen* add nothing further which would lead a skilled person to arrive at the feature of claim 1, let alone the features of claims 7 and 8.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

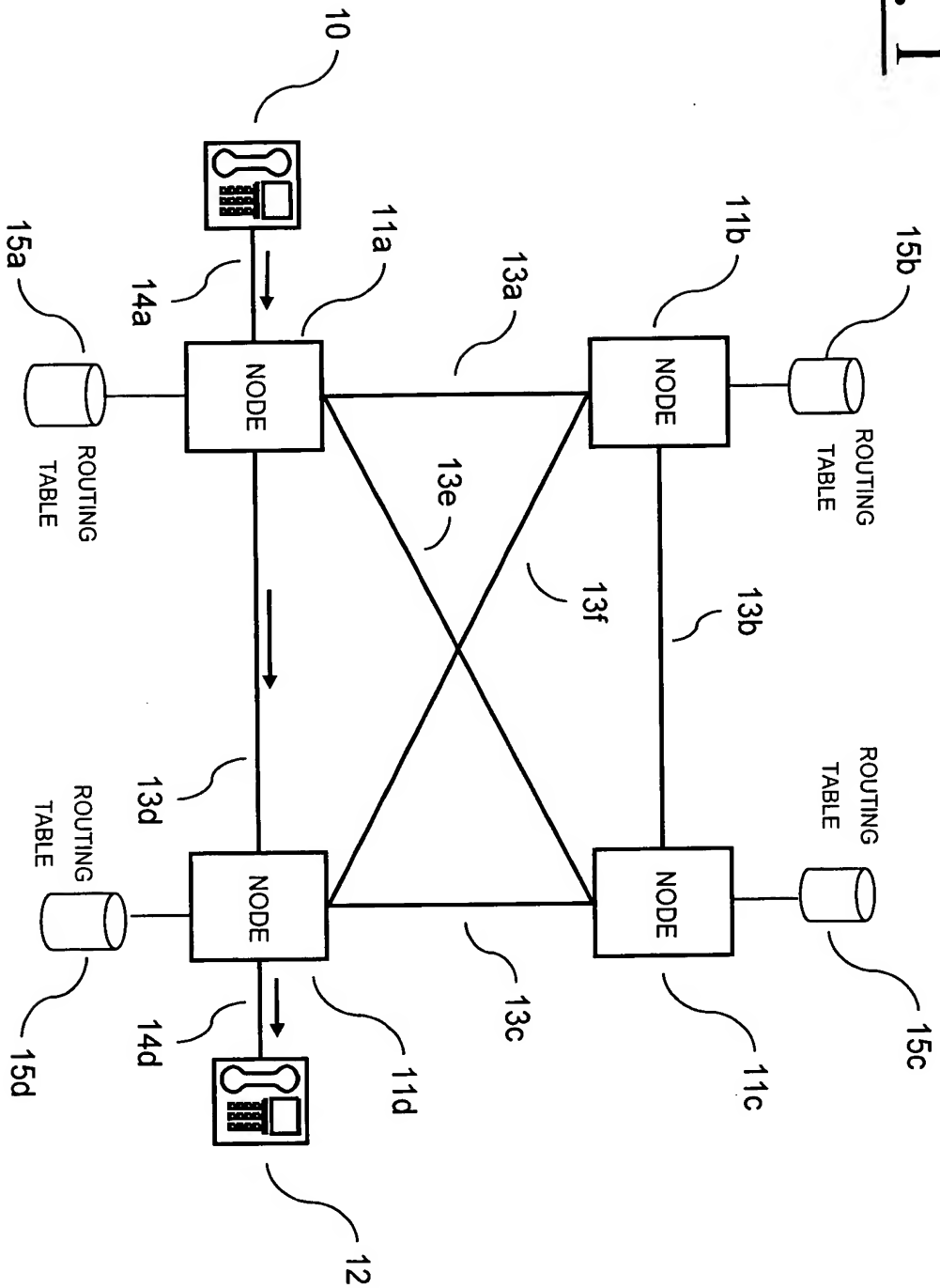
July 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

William M. Lee, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,935  
Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
P.O. Box 2786  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786  
(312) 214-4800  
(312) 759-5646 (fax)

Fig. 1



# Fig. 2

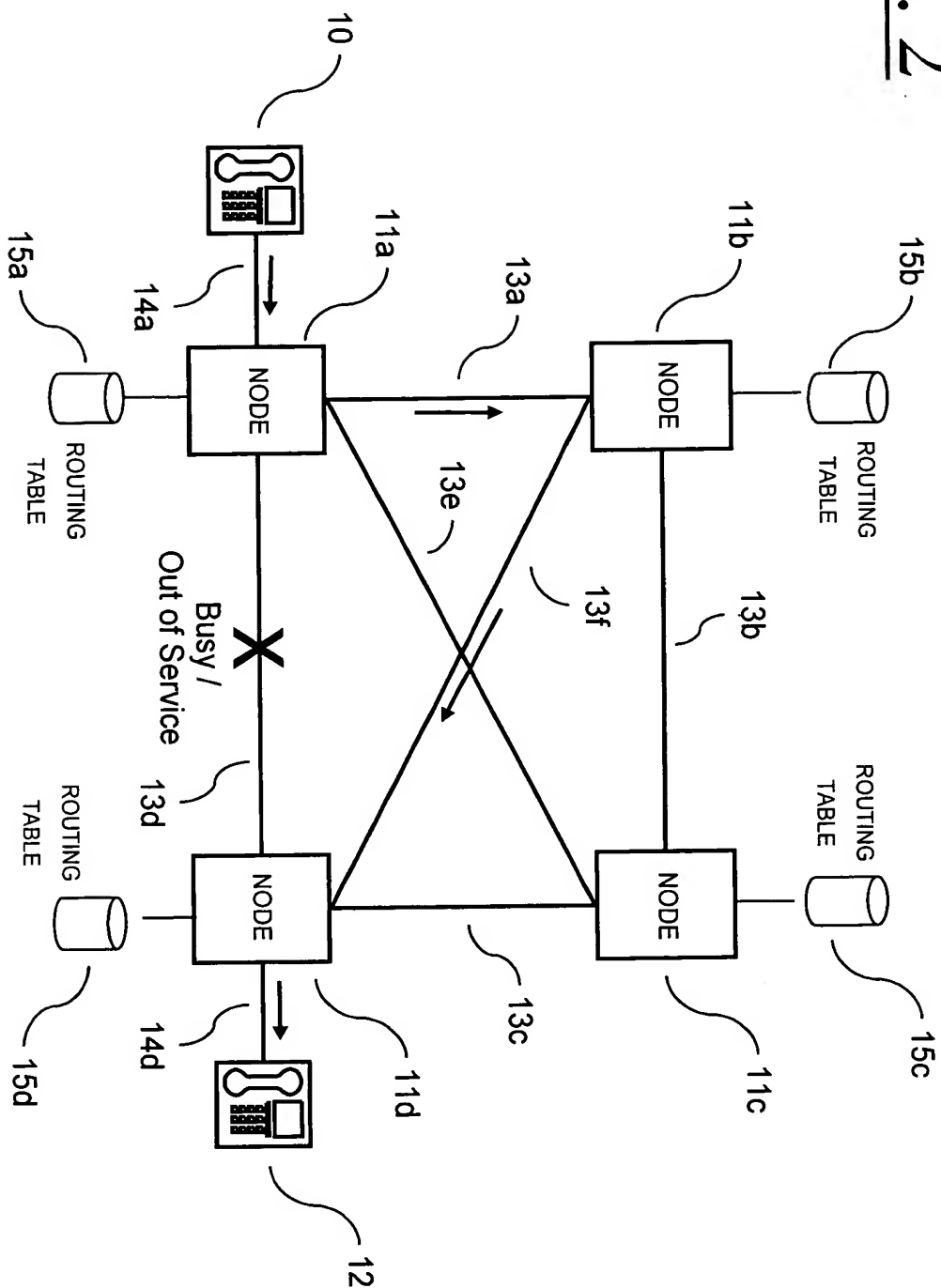
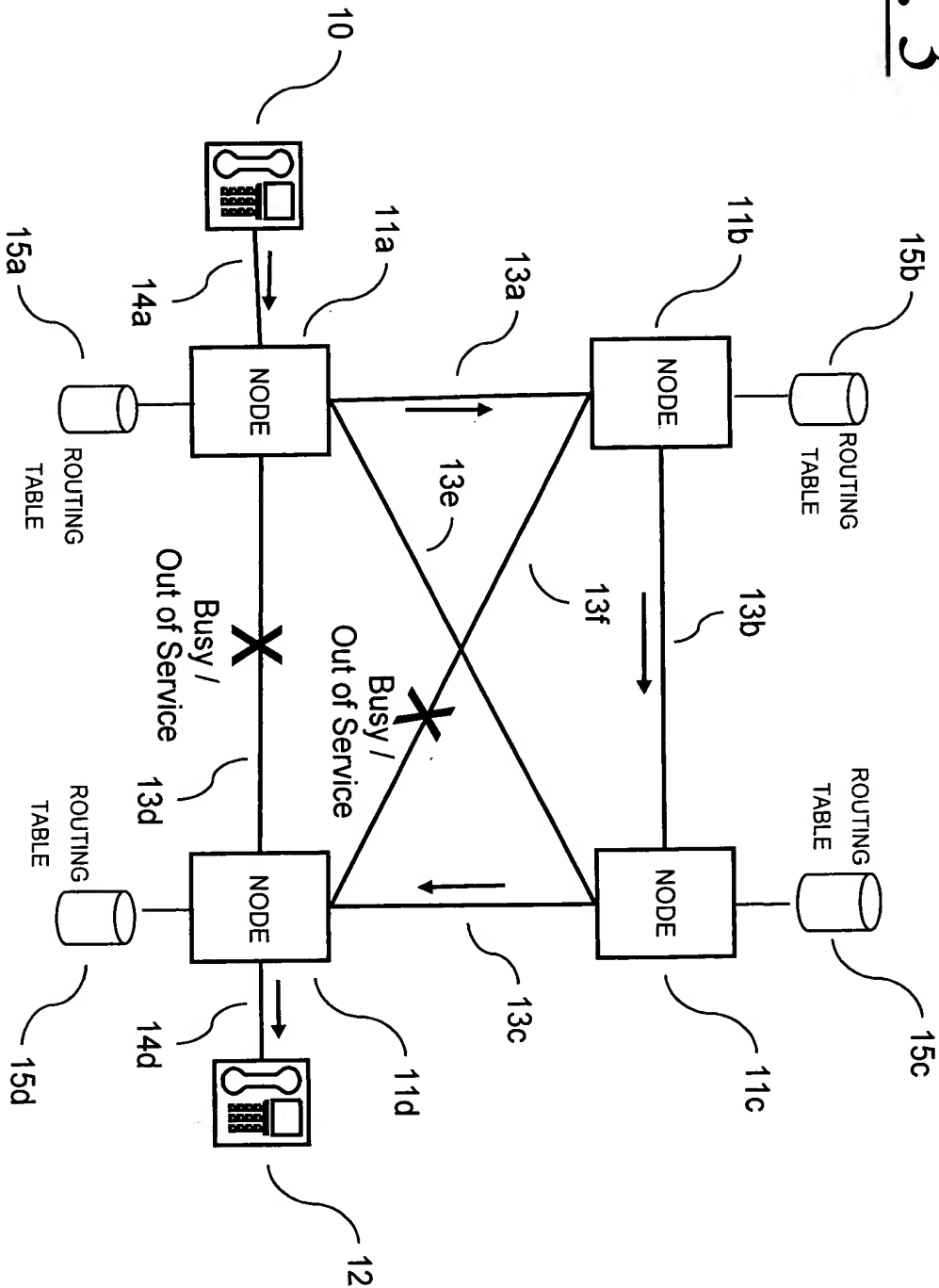


Fig. 3



# Fig. 6

